

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

Future histories of the outgoing administration must certainly include Mrs. Johnson's TV farewell to the White House as one of the most agonizingly sympathetic portraits of a First Lady on record. Even those who find it difficult to stir up any personal sympathy for the departing President were probably touched by her own "View From The White House."

An appeal to viewers' gentler emotions has never been a TV specialty, but Mrs. Johnson did so, quite unconsciously, in her interview with ABC's Howard K. Smith. She was cautious in her politician's wife and while that isn't easy — even for a Texan — she displayed considerable experience in that capacity.

The production was noticeably free of style and at times the First Lady weighed Smith's questions with the naivete of a replies, but she is, after all, a Miss America finalist during the personality competition. Yet at other times she ad-libbed answers with a sensitivity her husband might emulate.

"One night I recall I was upstairs watching a TV drama depicting the death of Lincoln. I looked up and there was a plaque which said: 'In this room Abraham Lincoln slept during the years of his presidency 1861-65.' Seldom have I felt closer to history."

MRS. JOHNSON said she has always waited for her husband to finish work — sometimes as late as 10 p.m.: "I listen for the elevator door to open. When I hear his voice asking 'Where's Bird?' then I know the day is ended and he's home."

"Does he bring his problems home like other husbands do?" asked Smith.

"Yes, I would feel I had failed if he didn't..." The thought of

Lady Bird wrestling with such things as a NATO crisis, de-escalating the war in Southeast Asia or appointing a Supreme Court Justice was momentarily unsettling — until she added, "Where else would he find the kind of privacy and honesty that he needs?"

Smith had no answer for that. I doubt if anyone does. Besides, he was groping for the next question. The veteran ABC newsman was not at his best and several times when he obviously felt the interview was going limp, he failed to take control. At these points in the show, he and the First Lady seemed equally unsure of themselves like baby birds in a shaky nest.

AT ONE POINT in Mrs. Johnson's farewell the President bounded into the room in clumsy fashion to give a windy answer to a simple question... and my thoughts raced back to a similar intrusion during Mrs. Kennedy's TV tour of the White House when a smiling John Kennedy stepped through the same door with such style and vigor... It did more than any script writer to suggest that not until the Johnsons leave the White House will they ever fully escape the respective ghosts which have haunted their lives since Nov. 22, 1963.

It is too early to speculate on Mrs. Nixon's interpretation of the role of national hostess but she gives every indication of being a supporting player rather than a co-star.

No one wanted the White House more than the Lyndon Johnsons and those who cover the Washington scene say that Mrs. Johnson has been the best First Lady in history. There was a bittersweet sadness to her television adieu which I cannot yet dispel.



HEART TOUR . . . More than 49,000 lives are prolonged yearly because of heart research, Dr. Steve C. K. Liu (right), director of Harbor General Hospital's cardiovascular laboratory, tells Mrs. Francis B. Toler Jr., of Torrance, one of the 30 area residents who toured Harbor General's cardiac area hosted by the Los Angeles County Heart Association's Southwestern Branch. This equipment, Dr. Liu explains to Mrs. Toler, is a product of that heart research. Adjusting the equipment is Dr. Michael Criley, head of Harbor's Cardiology Department.

'Oklahoma' Run Set in Long Beach

Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" begins a seven-performance, two-weekend run at the Long Beach Auditorium Concert Hall Feb. 6.

Second production in Long Beach Civic Light Opera's 21st season, "Oklahoma!" contains such memorable Rodgers and Hammerstein tunes as "People Will Say We're in Love," "Surrey With the Fringe on Top," "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" and the title song.

The young cast is headed by Marty Rolph as Laurie and Steve McAndrew as Curley. Ado Annie and Will Parker are played by Lindsay Jones and Wayne Dvorak while Dick Johnson portrays the bad guy, Jud.

Evening performances of "Oklahoma!" are scheduled for Feb. 6, 7, 8, 14, and 15 at 8:30, Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. on Feb. 9 and 16.

Tickets, priced from \$1 to \$5, are available at the CLO box office, 518 E. 4th St., Long Beach, all Wallich's Music City Stores, and all Mutual Ticket Agencies.

"Funny Girl" opened the Long Beach CLO season. "Oklahoma!" will be followed by "Camelot" (May 1-11 and "Carnival" (July 10-20).

Riviera Woman To Head Drive

"The next two months will be quite active ones for my heart," Mrs. Francis B. Toler Jr., Torrance, disclosed when she began planning last week for the Heart Sunday campaign in the area next month.

Mrs. Toler, newly appointed Heart Sunday leader in the Riviera section, will be leading neighborhood women in Heart's fund raising drive, Heart Sunday, Feb. 16.

As the young-looking mother of four teenagers explained, "We need volunteers eager to help lower the risk of a national cripple which took more than a million American lives last year."

"HEART disorder," she added, "is a major threat which costs millions of dollars in heart-grief and expense, affecting love ones. Everyone walking and breathing is potential heart victim."

Mrs. Toler, who also gives her heart and effort to the South Bay Lawyers Wives Association, California Nurses Association, District 21, and to St. Lawrence Martyr Church, commented that everyone can find time to defend their communities by supporting Heart Association research, public, professional education and community services programs.

THE HEART leader invited everyone in the Riviera to contact the local Heart branch, 371-3591, and learn how they can help "with heart."

"Remember, she concluded, "the heart you save could be your own!"

Chamber Players To Appear

The Stanford Chamber Players will make their first Southern California appearance in the South Bay Chamber Music Society concert series Saturday, Jan. 25, at 8:15 p.m., in El Camino College Auditorium.

Less than two years old and already a critical success, the group is built around the widely-known Francesco Trio. Cellist Bonnie Hampton, violinist David Abel, and pianist Nathan Schwartz are all members of the Stanford University faculty and in 1967 formed the larger group after musical sessions with faculty colleagues on the campus.

Kenneth Goldsmith, violin, and Pamela Goldsmith, viola, now make it a quintet. The Goldsmiths had been acquainted with Miss Hampton since they performed together at the Casals Festival in Puerto Rico.

For the El Camino concert, the Chamber Players will be joined by a guest artist, clarinetist Donald O'Brien, still another Stanford faculty member.

Gas Co. Sponsors Clinics

Area plumbers, appliance dealers, and servicemen will be offered a free course of instruction in the installation and service of gas appliances, J. D. Brady, Southwest division manager for Southern California Gas Co., announced this week.

Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m., the 12 two-hour classes will be held at the gas company's operating base at 4519 W. 182nd St. The Wednesday night clinics are open to anyone in the area who is interested, Brady said.

Topics for the first session will include an informative demonstration of the physical properties of natural gas and the requirements for proper combustion in gas appliances. Design and installation of appliance venting also will be discussed.

Instructors will consist of skilled gas company technicians who are experienced in all phases of installing and servicing gas equipment. Brady pointed out that the teachers will use live demonstrations, slide projects, class participation and other successful training techniques.

In subsequent meetings, the participants will receive refresher courses in appliance adjustment, operation, and temperature controls.

Police Release Youths

Three area youths have been cleared of dope charges, while a fourth must still stand trial for possession of dangerous drugs.

Released Jan. 9 by police were Robert Akers, 22, of 5118 Laurette St.; George F. Weston, 20, of 234 Paseo de Gracia; and Peter C. Henry, 20, of 22961 Nadine Circle. The district attorney's office rejected complaints on the three due to insufficient evidence.

Still facing charges is John E. Pinedo, Jr., 20, of 425 Calle de Castellana, an unemployed gardener.

Pinedo passed out from an apparent overdose of drugs Jan. 7. Police, summoned to Pinedo's home, arrested him when ambulance attendants said they found a bottle containing 23 red capsules under his clothes. The pills resemble the drug seconal.

The other three suspects were visiting Pinedo at the time of the incident.

Son Finds Father Dead In Bedroom

A heart attack has tentatively been blamed for the death of Carl Nalborski, 53, of 5906 Pacific Coast Hwy., Apt. 6, whose son Carl Jr. discovered his father's body in bed about 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Nalborski was pronounced dead on arrival at Little Company of Mary Hospital. He had suffered three previous heart attacks.

Identifying her father's body was Mrs. Andrea Taupier, 1571 W. 207th St.

Films Planned

The films "Berkeley Revolution" and "Anarchy USA" will be shown free of charge Thursday at the American Opinion Library, 1532 W. Carson St. The program, scheduled for 8 p.m., is being sponsored by the South Bay and Harbor chapters of the John Birch Society.

Warrior Trails

By **Cathy Focarazzo**

Basketball is taking its place at West this season.

Last Friday night West played the first league game of the season against Hawthorne. It was a terrifically exciting game ending with a tie just as the time ran out. The game ran into three minutes of overtime with Hawthorne defeating us, 74-67.

West then met Santa Monica in the West High gym Wednesday, playing against the powerful football rivals.

FRIDAY NIGHT, the Freshmen sponsored a dance featuring the Inn Keepers. The dance began after the game and lasted to 11:30. The Freshman really worked hard to publicize this dance and their hard work was quite successful.

Elections are coming up quite soon for the second semester. Candidates for both class and A.S.B. offices are preparing and campaigning for the upcoming elections. Hopefully, there will be a large group of people running for office. Two new positions have been added to the ASB offices and they are: secretary of public relations and secretary of activities. This should give extra opportunities to students interested in obtaining office.

THE CHEERLEADERS and queens are busily preparing for

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competition at Mt. Sac College sometimes in February. Good luck to them all as West is hoping to do well there.

Lately there has been a little buzzing around West among the seniors. This is due to the age-old dilemma of senior privileges, of which there are none. There are two sides to the problem. Some feel that no students should be granted any special privileges and the opposition feels that after four years, a senior should be allowed certain rights as the oldest class. It is a debatable issue and there are many arguments but as of yet, no definite action has been taken by any class.

PERHAPS in the future there will be certain privileges granted but it is doubtful the class of '69 will see any. West is still a very young school and certain traditions have not yet taken seed, as they have in older schools. Hopefully an agreement will come about in future years.

Today, West had a giant winter sports pep rally in the gym. It's the first basketball rally of the new year. Perhaps it will give us spirit and luck in the game against South High tonight.

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